

MEMPHIS AND SHELBY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



MRSA FACTS for our Community

What is MRSA (Mur-sa)?

Type of “*Staph*” infection

- Often causes skin infections
- Resistant to many antibiotics, including penicillin



MRSA or “*Staph*” infection

What does it look like?

- A “spider bite”
- A “bug bite”
- Abscess
- Boil
- Impetigo
- Infected turf burn

(Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*)

MRSA Resources:

Centers for Disease and Prevention (CDC)

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca.html

Tennessee Department of Health

<http://health.state.tn.us/MRSA/index.htm>

Shelby County Website

www.shelbycountyttn.gov

How is MRSA treated?

By a healthcare provider who may:

- Drain the infection *and/or*
- Give an antibiotic *and/or*
- Help reduce the amount of bacteria on the skin

How do you get MRSA?

- Touching someone’s MRSA-infected skin
- Touching surfaces that are contaminated with MRSA
- Sharing sports equipment
- Sharing personal hygiene items (bar soap, towels, washcloths)
- Not having the resources to keep clean
- Overusing antibiotics, also stopping them early, or missing doses



WASH hands often for 20 seconds with soap and water.

Stop the spread of MRSA

- Wash hands often with soapy water
- Use 60% alcohol-based hand gel when soap and water are not available
(supervise young children)
- Do not share personal items (bar soap, towels, razors) or clothing
- Avoid contact with other people’s skin infections
- Cover all wounds with a clean, dry bandage taped on all four sides
- Stay home from school or work if wound drainage cannot be contained by a bandage
- Report skin infections to the school nurse/employee health
- Wipe down shared desks, keyboards, phones and light switches regularly

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*To promote, protect and improve
the health and environment of all
Shelby County residents.*